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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

September 21, 2011

City Council Selects Team for Courts Project

The Fredericksburg City Council has selected First Choice Public-Private Partners, LLC, as the highest ranked firm to design and build a new court facility. This decision came after an extensive proposal review process that lasted seven months. Evaluation criteria included team experience and qualifications, design, cost, phasing, location, schedule, and overall project benefit.

First Choice was one of five highly qualified design-build teams competing for the project in response to the City's request for proposals under the Virginia Public Private Educational Facilities and Infrastructure Act (known as "PPEA"). In June, the City Council advanced three firms to the detailed phase of proposal development. Those firms included W.M. Jordan, Donley's, and First Choice.

First Choice team members include English Construction Company, Moseley Architects, and Glavé & Holmes Architecture. The City has successfully partnered with First Choice previously to build James Monroe High School, Lafayette Upper Elementary School, and the Police Headquarters.

The City will now enter negotiations with First Choice with the expectation of reaching a mutually agreeable comprehensive agreement for project delivery. The comprehensive agreement must be approved by City Council.

The proposal offered by First Choice calls for a new 78,500 square foot courthouse at 701—707 Princess Anne Street. The courthouse will meet the long-term space needs of the Circuit Court and Clerk, General District Court and Clerk, and the Sheriff. The existing General District court building will be renovated to house Juvenile & Domestic Relations Court and several ancillary court service functions.

"The City is sincerely grateful to all proposers who invested enormous time, talent and resources into the development of their proposals," said Beverly R. Cameron, City Manager. "The City's decision was especially difficult because the proposals represented a complex variety of solutions to the City's long-term space and security needs for courts."

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